

[Sir John St. Clair to Sharpe.]

Original.

Williamsbourg Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> 1755

Sir,

I herewith transmit to you two Letters from the Secretary of State relating to the present circumstances of Affairs in America.

As His Majesty has appointed me Deputy Quarter Master General to the Troops to be sent forthwith to Virginia, and those to be leaved in the different Provinces; I have taken the first opportunity of acquainting you with my Arrival in Virginia, in order to make the necessary preparations for the reception of the two Regiments which were to embark at Cork a few Days after my departure from England, and which we may reasonably expect will arrive in a very short time.

I shall be glad to know the particulars with regard to what may have lately happend in the Province you command, that I may regulate myself accordingly, and have them ready to lay before General Braddock on his landing that no time may be lost.

As I am an intire stranger to the Ground in America, it is highly necessary I shou'd get the best information of its situation that I can, which I have no other way of doing, but requesting of you to send me any Maps or Drawings you may have of your Province, which I shall return to you after they are copied; or if you have any knowledge of the ground at the back of our Settlements it will be of use likewise for me to have it.

These are things that General Braddock will expect that I shoud have, that he may be exactly informed of the distances of Places, for regulating the marches of the Troops (if necessity requires it) thro' the different Provinces.

Being ordered by His Majesty to correspond with you, I am glad of this opportunity of expressing the Respect with which I am

Sir

Your most obedient and  
most humble Servant

John S<sup>t</sup> Clair

P. S. It will be of the greatest consequence to have the proportion of men from your Province in readiness for completing the two Regiments from 500 Men to 700

To His Excell<sup>y</sup> Horatio Sharp Esq<sup>r</sup> Gov<sup>r</sup>  
of Maryland.